## NEVADA ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TRUST

## Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting Conference Call

1:30 PM PST, May 2, 2018

Attendees: NDEP: James (JD) Dotchin, Weiquan Dong, James Carlton

Parker, Jeffrey Kinder, Lisa Ferrel

NV AG: Rick Perdomo USEPA: Alison Fong CAP: David Parker SNWA: Todd Tijeten

MWD: Jill Teraoka, Maria Lopez, Sun Liang, Carol Nagai,

Betty Kuo Britton, Eric Fordham (Geopentech)

COH: Brenda Pohlmann CRC: Peggy Roefer

NERT: Jay Steinberg, Andrew Steinberg, Steve Clough, Brian

Loffman, Mark Hatch

Ramboll: John Pekala, Kimberly Kuwabara Tetra Tech: Dan Pastor, David Bohmann

Foley & Lardner LLP: Tanya O'Neill

AECOM: Harry Van Den Berg, Sally Bilodeau, Carmen Caceres-

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- 1. <u>Opening remarks</u>. James (JD) Dotchin presented opening remarks on behalf of NDEP, thanking the Stakeholders for their feedback and noting that people should call him between quarterly updates, if they have questions or concerns. Alison Fong provided opening remarks on behalf of EPA and concurred with JD. Andy Steinberg provided opening remarks on behalf of NERT and described the organizational changes to the structure of today's presentation in response to Stakeholder comments. Jill Teraoka stated that they appreciated the response to Stakeholder feedback and requested that meeting slides be provided at least one day in advance of meetings. Andy responded absolutely.
- 2. <u>State of the Trust 2Q18</u>. Andy Steinberg presented the State of the Trust slide. Roundtables will be held with the Stakeholders in the future, probably in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2018, to discuss significant findings of OU-1/OU-2 RI Report.
- 3. NERT Remedial Strategy. Steve Clough presented the slides on NERT's Remedial Strategy. The Trust is not ready to discuss remedial alternatives, as the RI needs to be finished first, but the Remedial Action Objectives (RAOs) articulate the overall remedial strategy and was memorialized (with three Operable Units (OUs)) in 2017, as discussed in the Phase 3 RI Work Plan. The Trust is looking at various remedial technologies that will satisfy the RAOs for each OU. The current perchlorate plume was added to the Las Vegas Wash Mass Flux figure, since the Annual Stakeholder's Meeting. Steve discussed the current understanding of mass loading of perchlorate into LVW. As indicated, there are no control measures in place within the Eastside Study Area and as such,

- approximately 35 pounds per day of perchlorate enters the Las Vegas Wash between Pabco Road and Homestead Weirs. As such, determining the migration pathways where perchlorate is entering the Las Vegas Wash between the two weirs will allow NERT to devise a remedy for improving water quality in the Las Vegas Wash.
- 4. Remedial Program Update. Steve Clough presented the Remedial Program Update schedule slide. Steve added that the deliverable date for the OU-1/OU-2 RI Report is now scheduled to be submitted on February 1, 2019, and that the OU-3 RI Report will be submitted approximately one year later. Andy Steinberg wanted to reinforce that when the approach was changed to three OUs, the goal was to get OU-1 to final remedy as soon as possible; if delays are encountered in OU-3, it won't hold up implementation of remedial actions at the NERT Site (OU-1). Jill Teraoka asked if something were to delay OU-2, could it be severed from OU-1. Steve answered yes, OU-1 and OU-2 could be bifurcated, but that is not expected at this time. Eric Fordham asked about the Unit 4 In-Situ Source Area Bioremediation Treatability Study ending at the same time as the OU-1/OU-2 RI Report and HRA. Steve indicated that the timing of this treatability study won't slow down the RI and the data necessary to complete the Health Risk Assessment has already been collected; data from the treatability study is primarily for the FS, not the RI.
  - a) Remedial Program Updates: OU-1/OU-2. Steve Clough presented the Unit 4 & 5 Buildings Investigation, Phase 2 RI Modifications, Phase 3 RI, RI Report, and Risk Assessments slides. For the Barrier Wall Geophysical Integrity Evaluation, Willowstick (geophysical) results showed no leakage through the slurry wall itself. An NDEP comment on the Phase 1 RI Data Evaluation Report indicated the need to evaluate the vapor intrusion pathway. There will be a work plan for OU-1/OU-2 Soil Gas Investigation forthcoming. Jill Teraoka asked what the results for the Phase 3 RI look like so far. Steve indicated that none of the results are validated, and he didn't have any findings to share right now. At the next quarterly meeting, the Trust can provide a high level summary of some Phase 3 RI findings. Brian Loffman presented the Feasibility Study and Treatability Studies slides. Steve noted that the In-Situ Bioelectrochemical Laboratory-Scale Treatability Study was formerly called the Alternative Hydrogen In-Situ Treatability Study. Currently, this is just a lab-scale study. The Trust will discuss the lab-scale findings with NDEP and the Stakeholders prior to field-scale implementation. Jill mentioned that she saw an article that Tronox is going to sell off portions of its company. Andy responded that this will be covered in a future slide.
  - b) Remedial Program Updates: OU-3. Steve Clough presented the Phase 2 RI Modifications, Phase 3 RI, Downgradient Investigation, and RI Report slides. Jill Teraoka asked if Tuscany is an existing development. Steve responded yes, but there are still a few houses to be built. Tanya O'Neill added that none of the proposed wells are on private property; they are all in roads or public areas. Carlton Parker indicated that AECOM is in the field this week completing the last round of surface water sampling in LVW. Steve added that in addition to the Phase 1 Groundwater investigation in the Downgradient Study Area, there is also a Phase 2 Groundwater investigation planned, if needed.

c) Brian Loffman presented the Feasibility Study (Treatability/Pilot Studies) slide. Eric Fordham asked if the LVW Bioremediation Pilot Study is similar to the Seep Area Bioremediation Treatability Study. Steve responded that the various bioremediation studies are looking into the Upper Muddy Creek formation (UMCf), which hasn't been investigated to-date and the three studies (including the Galleria Road Bioremediation Treatability Study) are in different geographic areas, which have different geologic settings/hydrogeologic settings. Eric asked whether the lessons learned from one treatability study can be transferred to the next and Steve responded yes.

## 5. Other Projects.

- a) Steve Clough presented the GWETS slide. The current plan is to maintain GW-11 until final remedy. The Trust currently anticipates re-using the AP-5 tanks to manage extracted groundwater in the event that the FBRs are not operating. The tanks will be transitioned into their new role once the AP material processing is complete. GW-11 will likely be closed simultaneously with final remedy. Andy Steinberg indicated that the current GWETS system will likely be significantly overhauled as part of final remedy. Andy also noted that GW-11 was originally constructed to hold groundwater while the FBRs were being constructed. Maria Lopez asked what decommissioning GW-11 will entail. Steve answered that GW-11 is within an Excavation Control Area (ECA), and soils beneath the pond and in the pond's berm will be characterized and disposed, if needed, as part of pond closure. Maria asked about the handling of pond solids. Steve responded that the pond solids will also be characterized and disposed, and that we don't believe that they have high perchlorate concentrations like the AP-5 pond solids.
- b) Brian Loffman presented the AP-5 Pond Closure slide.
- c) Steve Clough presented the SNWA Weir Dewatering Treatment slide. Jill Teraoka asked what the current plan is for the equipment after completion of the project. Steve responded that they are in the early stages of looking into plant decommissioning. Some equipment, such as the ion exchange (IX) vessels and multimedia filters, could be kept and stored on Trust property, some equipment will be scrapped, some equipment will be sold and rented equipment will be returned. Eric Fordman asked if there was any consideration of holding off on AECOM's surface water sampling until after weir construction was complete. Steve answered that the Trust has been conducting ongoing monthly surface water sampling since June 2017. JD Dotchin added that there will be pre-construction, during, and post-construction surface water sampling data that can be analyzed. Carlton Parker indicated that the stress to the LVW is local to the weir construction area. Harry Van Den Berg said that they don't believe weir construction will impact the objective of AECOM's transect surface water sampling work.
- d) Jay Steinberg presented the Tronox Lease Assignment slide. As part of its request for an assignment of the lease, Tronox would like full release for itself and its Guarantor from all liability under the lease. The buyer is EMD Acquisition. It will take

Ramboll 13-15 weeks to get a detailed cost estimate of Tronox's lease termination obligations and to complete a compliance audit. Jill Teraoka asked if the lease requires that NERT be reasonable. Jay indicated that the lease does not address the release of Tronox's Guarantor. Jay indicated the Trust is not paying for Ramboll's effort. Andy Steinberg said NERT won't consent to the assignment if it requires the Trust to take any additional liability. Jill asked if the purchase agreement can be shared. Jay said yes, it can be shared.

- 6. <u>Upcoming Deliverables and Technical Roundtables</u>. Steve Clough presented the Deliverables and Technical Roundtable slides. For the Technical Roundtables, Steve said if the stakeholders would like other topics covered, please let the Trust know. Jill Teraoka asked if the Groundwater Model Roundtable will cover a discussion of the AMPAC plume. Andy Steinberg responded that the model domain includes the extent of the AMPAC plume, so from a technical standpoint, it will be included.
- Trust Financial Update. Jay Steinberg presented the Key Financial Performance Data slide and Andy Steinberg presented the budget tracking chart slide. Jill Teraoka asked if the Downgradient Study Area Implementation category is almost complete or will it be amended. Andy responded that NDEP has a fixed budget with AECOM and that contract will not be amended or renewed. The Downgradient effort will be rolled into the M budget category (RI/FS), once the N budget category is exhausted. Jill thought the budget tracking chart was very helpful. Sun Liang thought it would be helpful to know how much it costs per pound of perchlorate removed. Andy offered to discuss with Sun off-line to make sure he gets him what he needs. Weiquan Dong added that looking at cost per volume of water treated would be useful.
- 8. <u>Closing Questions / Comments</u>. Jill Teraoka commented that she liked the addition of the locations of the various field efforts presented on slides.

The meeting was adjourned.